



Coast Guard Cutter ASPEN Snapshot

A summary of facts and figures about the Coast Guard Cutter ASPEN

<http://www.uscg.mil/D11/cgcAspen>

Tender of the Lost Coast

U.S. Coast Guard Cutter ASPEN is the eighth cutter built of the Juniper Class Sea Going Buoy Tender fleet. She was built at Marinette Marine Corp in 2000-2001, launched on April 21, 2001, accepted by the Coast Guard on September 28, 2001, and commissioned on January 24, 2002. ASPEN is one of the most technologically advanced cutters in the Coast Guard fleet. ASPEN's homeport is San Francisco, Ca, on Yerba Buena Island. Her crew compliment is 42 enlisted personnel and 7 officers. ASPEN is responsible for servicing and maintaining 83 aids to navigation and all NOAA environmental buoys in her area of responsibility, stretching from the Oregon-California border down south to San Diego. Also, ASPEN completes other missions, including search and rescue, law enforcement, ports and waterways security and pollution response.



Cutter Specs.

Number in Service: 16

Length: 225 ft

Beam: 46 ft

Draft: 13 ft

Displacement: 2,000 tons

Buoy Deck Area: 2,875 ft²

Commissioned: January 24, 2002

Top Speed: 14 knots

Number of Small boats: 2

Crane Capacity: 40,000 lbs

Maximum Underway Time: 21 days un-replenished; 45 replenished

Number of aids in AOR: 83

Key Leaders

Commanding Officer

LCDR T. D'Arcy

Executive Officer

LT L. D. DePace

Command Chief

EMC R. L. Gilpin

Operations Officer

LTJG R. Y. Johnston

Engineering Officer

CWO4 S. J. Woodworth

1st Lieutenant

CWO3 J. R. Rose

Workforce Totals

Enlisted

42

Officer

7



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ASPEN's Operational Highlights

AIDS TO NAVIGATION

USCGC ASPEN assisted NOAA in the safe recovery of 2 specialized ocean wave glider buoys worth \$750,000, saving NOAA copious time, energy and procurement of other independent assets. During FY12, ASPEN serviced 7 NOAA buoys over 120 hours of operations. During FY 12, ASPEN has traveled over a total of 10,000 miles, serviced 44 buoys, completed 473 hours of buoy operations and 25 hours of small boat response with STATION GOLDEN GATE.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

In 2009, ASPEN seized 16,500 pounds of marijuana and arrested four suspected drug smugglers from a "go-fast" boat off of the coast of Baja, Mexico. At the time, the drug bust was the third largest marijuana seizure in Coast Guard history and the first ever drug bust by a JUNIPER Class cutter.

In 2011, ASPEN recovered over 35 bales of marijuana off the coast of Baja, Mexico. In addition, CGC ASPEN returned 13 illegal immigrants to Mexico.

In July 2012, ASPEN seized 341 bales of marijuana weighing over 7,400 lbs with a street value of over 6.7 million dollars. ASPEN's drug bust directly assisted the Coast Guard in disrupting the flow of waterborne marijuana seizures in Southern California, surpassing the 50 ton milestone in District 11 this fiscal year.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE

In 2010, ASPEN was deployed to the Gulf of Mexico in response to the Deep Water Horizon Oil spill. During the 5.5 month deployment, ASPEN transited over 13,000 nautical miles, navigating through the Panama Canal twice and recovered over 138,000 gallons of spilled oil.

Address

Commanding Officer
USCGC ASPEN (WLB 208)
Yerba Buena Island
San Francisco, CA 94130

